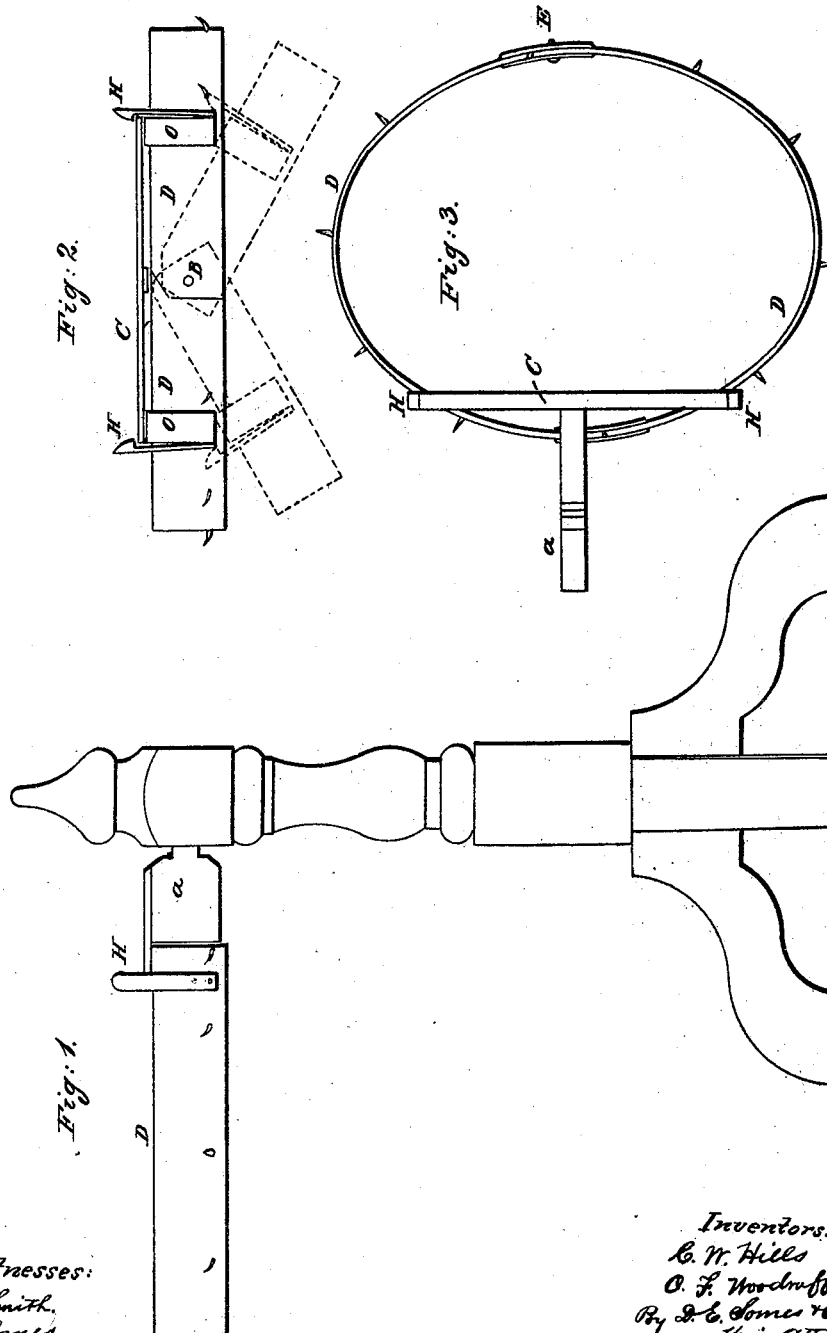


HILLS & WOODRUFF.

Bag Holder.

No. 52,288.

Patented Jan'y 30, 1866.



Witnesses:
H. Smith.
D. Jones.

Inventors:
R. W. Hills
O. F. Woodruff.
By J. C. Jones & Co.
their Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES W. HILLS AND O. F. WOODRUFF, OF MORRISON, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN BAG-HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 52,288, dated January 30, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES W. HILLS and O. F. WOODRUFF, of Morrison, in the county of Whiteside and State of Illinois, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Bag-Holders; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

The object of our invention is to provide better means than have heretofore been devised for holding open the mouths of bags while the bags are being filled.

To this end we construct a standard on a pedestal in the form represented on the drawing, or in any other suitable form, and in the head thereof, on one side, we insert the supporting-arm, (marked A.) This arm is made with a shank which rests in the head of the standard, and its upper surface projects outward about four inches, more or less, to form a support for the cross-bar hereinafter mentioned. On the outer end of the main part of this arm is a pin, B, which forms one of the hinges for the hinged hoop, also hereinafter described.

Letter C is a cross-bar, which rests on its center upon the projecting portion of arm A, and is made fast thereto.

D D are sections of a hinged hoop, with pins on their outer surfaces, to which the bag to be held is made secure. One hinge of this hoop is formed by the pin B on the outer end of arm A, and the other is formed by a pin, E, on the side of the hoop immediately opposite the pin B. Each of these pins passes through both sections of the hoop, and thereby forms a hinge.

H H are spring-catches attached to the outer sides of the hinged hoop, and to which they are attached in manner following, namely: We first attach to the outer surface of said hoop the raised shoulders O O, and then rivet

the lower ends of the spring-catches H H to said shoulders respectively. When the sections of the hoop are raised on a line parallel with each other the heads of these spring-catches respectively rest upon the ends of the cross-bar C.

The method of operating our device is as follows, to wit: Standing opposite the standard, with his face turned thereto, the operator must place a thumb on each of the heads of spring-catches H H and press them outward. This movement releases the catches from the cross-bar, and the sides of the hoop fall downward, thereby lessening the size of the circle thereof. The sides of the hoop are lowered as far as may be desirable, and then the inside of the mouth of the bag is attached to the pins on the outer sides of the hoop. The operator must next raise the sides of the hoop till the heads of the spring-catches are clasped over the ends of the cross-bar. The mouth of the bag is now distended and ready to receive whatever is to be placed therein. When the bag is filled the operator must place a thumb on each of the spring-catches and crowd them backward till the cross-bar is released therefrom. Each section of the hoop falls, the circle is contracted, and the bag is free. Whenever the mouth of the bag corresponds with the size of the hoop, so as to render that movement unnecessary, the hoop need not be lowered to receive the bag.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The hinged hoop D D, cross-bar C, spring-catches H H, and arm A, constructed, combined, and arranged substantially as herein specified.

CHAS. W. HILLS.
O. F. WOODRUFF.

Witnesses:

F. W. CHAPMAN,
A. J. JACKSON.